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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/086,512	03/04/2002	Jason Chou	12840 B	2129

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EXAMINER
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RADA, ALEX P

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3714

DATE MAILED: 07/14/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

## Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/086,512

Applicant(s)

CHOU, JASON

Examiner

Alex P. Rada

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3714

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 14 April 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5 and 8-11 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5 and 8-11 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date: \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Response to Amendment*

In response to the amendment filed April 14, 2004 in which the applicant cancels claims 6 and 7, amends claims 1-5 and 8-11, and claim 1-5 and 8-11 are pending in this office action.

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103*

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1-2 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yoon '530 in view of Martin WO '248 and Dooley '687.

3. Yoon discloses the following:

A golf trainer having a base (120) including a first and second end for supporting a ball to be swung or putt by a user (figure 2), a plurality of sensors (166) along the base for sensing a movement of the ball along the base (paragraph 54), and a housing disposed on the second end of the base (140 and figure 2) as recited in claim 1.

The base includes at least one side having a fence (figure 6) disposed and sensors (166) are disposed on the fence and facing toward the base (figure 6) as recited in claim 2.

Yoon does not expressly disclose the following:

A displayer device and a processor device receiving signals from the sensor and sending the treated signals to the displayer device to be displayed and the housing having an upper panel for supporting the sensors and the sensors being facing downward toward the base as recited in claim 1.

Martin teaches the following:

A gulf-putting simulator having a display and a processor device receiving signals from the sensor and displaying the visual representation of the progress of the ball following the putting strike with the representation of the target (page 3, paragraphs 11-18) as recited in claim 1. By having the progress of a ball following the putting strike on a display, one of ordinary skill in the art would provide a more accurate assessment of a users performance.

Dooley teaches the following:

The housing (1) having an upper panel for supporting the sensors (figure 3) and the sensors being facing downward toward the base, in which the examiner interprets the different angles of the sensor to a functional equivalent to the sensors being facing downward toward the base as recited in claim 1. By having an upper panel for supporting sensors facing the base, one of ordinary skill in the art would provide a golfer with precise and accurate information on the putt's distance and deviation from the intended target.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to modify Yoon to include a displayer device and a processor device receiving signals from the sensor and sending the treated signals to the displayer device to be displayed and the housing having an upper

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panel for supporting the sensors and the sensors being facing downward toward the base as taught by Martin and Dooley to provide a more accurate assessment of a users performance with a precise and accurate information on the putt's distance and deviation from the intended target.

4. Claims 3-5 and 9-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yoon '530 in view of Martin WO '248 and Dooley '687 as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of MacLean '256.

5. Yoon in view of Martin and Dooley disclose the claimed invention as discussed above except for the following:

A plurality of bars secured together as recited in claim 3.

The first and second bars include a tongue on the first bar extended therefrom and a second bar having a cavity engaged into the first bar for securing the first bar and the second bar as recited in claims 4 and 9.

The first bar includes a first terminal disposed in the cavity and the second bar includes a second terminal disposed on the tongue for engaging with the first terminal when the tongue is engaged into the cavity of the first bar as recited in claims 5 and 10.

MacLean teaches the following:

A plurality of separate panels each having opposing left and right side rails removeably secured to one another, in which the examiner interprets the rails to be a functional equivalent to applicants fastening means as recited in claims 3-5 and 9-10. By having separate panels, one of ordinary skill in the art

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would provide an adjustable putting surface that can be easily be assembled and disassembled.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to modify Yoon to further include a plurality of separate panels each having opposing left and right side rails removeably secured to one another as taught by MacLean to provide an adjustable putting surface that can be easily be assembled and disassembled.

6. Claim 11 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yoon '530 in view of Martin WO '248, Dooley '687 and MacLean '256.

7. Yoon in view of Martin, Dooley, and McLean disclose the claimed invention as discussed above except for the processor device is secured onto the at least one side panel of the housing. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to further modify Yoon to secure the processor onto the at least one side panel, since it has been held that rearranging parts of an invention involves only routine skill in the art.

### *Response to Arguments*

8. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-5 and 8-11 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

### *Conclusion*

9. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

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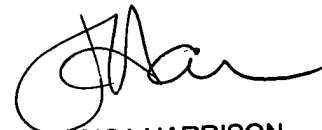
Shinbo `471, Gagnon`009, and Alexander `308 disclose different types of amusement device.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Alex P. Rada whose telephone number is 703-308-7135. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday, 08:00-16:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's primary, Jessica Harrison can be reached on 703-308-2217. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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JESSICA HARRISON  
PRIMARY EXAMINER